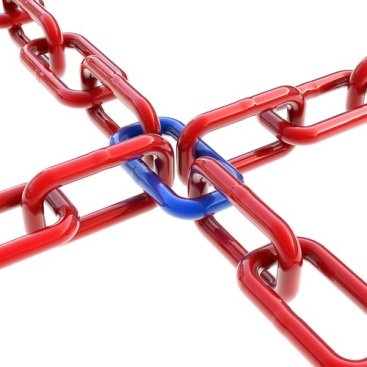
****

Links are an important feature of the World Wide Web. They allow you to skip from one page to another or within a page. You can link to music, movies or download files with FTP. Links are found in nearly all web pages. Links allow users to click their way from page to page or within a page.

**3 Parts of a Link:**

1. Destination – Most important part that allows you to link to other web pages or inside the page itself.
2. Label – Visitor sees and clicks on to reach the destination.
3. A Target – determines where the destination will be displayed.(Named window, frame, new window)

**Create a Link to another Web Page**

To create a link you must use the <a href = “page.html”> </a> tags. **href** - stands for *hypertext reference.*

**page.html** represents an html webpage or URL address of a web page. The “a” stands for *anchor*.

**Terms:**

**http** – Hyper Text Transfer Protocol which is a way computers moves data back and forth. A protocol used to request and transmit files, especially webpages and webpage components, over the Internet or other computer network.

**https** – Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secured - is a [communications protocol](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communications_protocol) for [secure](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_security) communication over a [computer network](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_network), with especially wide [deployment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_deployment) on the [Internet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet). Technically, it is not a protocol in and of itself; rather, it is the result of simply [layering](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OSI_model) the [Hypertext Transfer Protocol](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertext_Transfer_Protocol) (HTTP) on top of the [SSL/TLS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport_Layer_Security) protocol, thus adding the security capabilities of SSL/TLS to standard HTTP communications. The main motivation for HTTPS is to prevent [wiretapping](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiretapping) and [man-in-the-middle attacks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Man-in-the-middle_attack).

**Examples:**

<a href = “http://www.site.com/directory/page.html”> Click Here</a> - Creates a link called Click Here that will take them to site.com.

<a href = “page.html> click here for next page</a> Creates a link to another page within the current website directory.

**\*\*\*Note:** It is a good idea to use lowercase url’s because some servers are case sensitive.

**HTML Links - Hyperlinks**

HTML links are hyperlinks.

A hyperlink is an element, a text, or an image that you can click on, and jump to another document or within a webpage.

**HTML Links - Syntax**

In HTML, links are defined with the **<a>** tag:

**Link Syntax:**

<a href="*url*">*link text*</a>

**Example:**

<a href="http://www.example.com/html/">Visit our HTML tutorial</a>

The **href** attribute specifies the destination address (http://www.example.com/html/)

The **link text** is the visible part to the user.

Clicking on the link text, will send you to the specified address or location.

**Note:** The link text does not have to be text. It can be an HTML image or any other HTML element.

**Local Links**

The example above used an absolute URL (A full web address).

**Example:**

(http://www.example.com/html

A local link (link to the same web site) is specified with a relative URL (without http://www....).

**Example:**

<a href="html\_images.asp">HTML Images</a>

**HTML Links - Colors and Icons**

When you move the mouse cursor over a link, two things will normally happen:

* The mouse arrow will turn into a little hand
* The color of the link element will change

By default, links will appear as this in all browsers:

* An unvisited link is underlined and blue
* A visited link is underlined and purple
* An active link is underlined and red

You can change the defaults, *using styles CSS which will be discussed later:*

**Example**

<style>  
a:link    {color:#000000; background-color:transparent; text-decoration:none}  
a:visited {color:#000000; background-color:transparent; text-decoration:none}  
a:hover   {color:#ff0000; background-color:transparent; text-decoration:underline}  
a:active  {color:#ff0000; background-color:transparent; text-decoration:underline}  
</style>

**HTML Links - The target Attribute**

The **target** attribute specifies where to open the linked document.

This example will open the linked document in a new browser window or in a new tab:

**Example**

<a href="http://www.example.com/" target="\_blank">Visit Us!</a>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Target Value** | **Description** |
| \_blank | Opens the linked document in a new window or tab |
| \_self | Opens the linked document in the same frame as it was clicked (this is default) |
| \_parent | Opens the linked document in the parent frame |
| \_top | Opens the linked document in the full body of the window |
| *framename* | Opens the linked document in a named frame |

If your webpage is locked in a frame, you can use target="\_top" to break out of the frame:

**Note:** *Frames will be discussed later*.

**Example**

<a href="http://www.example.com/html/" target="\_top">HTML tutorial!</a>

**HTML Links - Image as Link**

It is common to use images as links:

**Example**

<a href="default.asp">  
  <img src="smiley.gif" alt="HTML tutorial" style="width:42px;height:42px;border:0">  
</a>

**Note:** border:0 is added to prevent IE9 (and earlier) from displaying a border around the image.

**HTML Links - The id Attribute**

The id attribute can be used to create bookmarks inside HTML documents.

Bookmarks are not displayed in any special way. They are invisible to the reader.

**Example**

Add an **id** attribute to any <a> element:

<a id="tips">Useful Tips Section</a>

Then create a link to the <a> element (Useful Tips Section):

<a href="#tips">Visit the Useful Tips Section</a>

Or, create a link to the <a> element (Useful Tips Section) from another page:

<a href="http://www:URL">Visit the Useful Tips Section</a>

**Note:** Without a trailing slash on subfolder addresses, you might generate two requests to the server.  
Many servers will automatically add a slash to the address, and then create a new request.

**LAB**

1. Create an HTML document
2. Find an URL address of a website that you like and an image.
3. In the Body Section type the following;

<a href = “http://www.URL address”> Click here</a> <br/>

<a href = “http://www.URL address”> <img src = “image.gif or jpg”></a> <br/>

1. Save and View

**Part 2 Linking with in a documment**

1. Add to the current document.
2. Insert a couple of <br/> tags
3. Type the following. Go online line and copy and paste several paragraphs to insert into document.

<br/>

<br/>

I’m at the top of the document. <a href = “#bottom”> Take me to the bottom</a>

**Insert the several paragraphs that you copied here.**

<a name = “bottom”> I’m at the bottom</a>

</body>

1. Save and View

**Question s and Discovery**

1. Do you think you can go from the bottom to the top? ***Try it!***
2. List the advantages that you can think of for linking within a document.
3. What is the purpose of the name attribute?
4. What is the difference between http & https?
5. What is the purpose of the id & name attribute?

**Chapter Summary**

* Use the HTML **<a>** element to define a link
* Use the HTML **href** attribute to define the link address
* Use the HTML **target** attribute to define where to open the linked document
* Use the HTML **<img>** element (inside <a>) to use an image as a link
* Use the HTML **id** attribute (id=*value*) to define bookmarks in a page
* Use the HTML **href** attribute (href="#*value"*) to address the bookmark